An apparatus for producing interactive television programs

Patent number:

EP0852443

Publication date:

1998-07-08

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Classification:

- international:

H04N7/173; G06F17/30

- european:

H04N5/00M8; H04N7/16E2 EP19980300019 19980105

Application number: Priority number(s):

US19970034683P 19970103

Also published as:

JP10271484 (A)

EP0852443 (A3)

Cited documents:

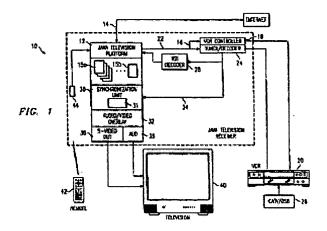
US5585858 XP000631189

XP000641071 XP000581417

XP002090497

Abstract of EP0852443

A Java television receiver (10) includes a Java television platform (12) that has a bidirectional Internet connection (14) capable of sending Internet data to the Java television platform (12) and transmitting data from the Java television platform (12) to an Internet provider. Additionally, a memory (13) is included to store a deck of showlet cards (15a) downloaded from the Internet. A tuner/decoder (24) connected to the Java television platform (12) is provided which can receive, tune and decode television signals. An audio/video overlay (32) connected to the Java television platform is provided to combine a showlet card (15b) from the Java television platform (12) and television signals from the tuner/decoder (24). The display of showlet cards (15b) and television signals is coordinated by a synchronization unit (30). Finally, a video output (36) and an audio output (38) sends the combined Internet data and television signals to a television (40).



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